(1953 48) Department.

48 SERIES.

G.O. No. 582

Dated 16 3 48

[Despatch Abstract.]

PROHIBITION WORKING : DECEMBER 1947 : BOARD'S REPORT : RECORDED.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
PUBLIC (INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY) DEPARTMENT.

Fort St. George, dated 26th February 1948.

PRESS NOTE No. 53.

PROHIBITION : WORKING OF THE ACT : REPORT FOR DECEMBER 1947.

The following report on the working of Prohibition during December 1947 in the 16 districts where it is now in force, is published for information.

I. ENFORCEMENT.

CASES: The total number of cases detected in the eight old Prohibition districts, viz. Anantapur, Bellary, Kurnool, Cuddpah, Chittoor, North Arcot, Salem and Coimbatore during December 1947 was 3301 as against 3136 in November. Of these 62 per cent related to illicit distillation and kindred offences. The number of illicit distillation cases dropped from 1486 in the previous month to 1127 during the month.

In the old Prohibition districts there were 73 cases of smuggling of liquor from outside the Province as against 97 in the previous month. These cases related mainly to smuggling of toddy from Mysore State and arrack from Mysore, Cochin and Sandur States.

The number of cases detected during the month showed an increase in all the new Prohibition districts of Guntur, Nellore, the Nilgiris, South Kanara, Malabar, Tanjore, Trichinopoly and Madura. The total number of cases in all the eight districts increased from 782 during the previous month to 1152 during the month. In the new Prohibition districts there were 90 cases of smuggling of liquor as against 75 in the previous month. These cases related mainly to smuggling of small quantitites of liquor from Mahe, Cochin and Pudukkottai. There was no organised attempt at smuggling.

The total number of cases relating to intoxicating drugs in all the 16 districts increased from 321 to 344. These included 8 cases of illicit cultivation of the hemp plant reported from the districts of Bellary, Kurnool, Cuddapah, Salem and Guntur.

ASSISTANCE OF OFFICIALS OF OTHER DEPARTMENTS AND NON-OFFICIALS: The Police in the Ceded districts continued to give effective and satisfactory co-operation. They also did good work in Nellore and Malabar districts. The co-operation of the village officers was poor except in North Arcot and Cuddapah districts. In Cuddapah district a vaccinator detected an illicit distillation case and a forest guard gave information and assistance in the detection of 12 illicit distillation cases in the reserve forest. Outsiders (other than regular informers) detected 17 cases and assisted in detecting 490 cases.

II. AMELIORATIVE WORK.

SPECIAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS: A conference of the Special Development Officers was held on the 12th and 13th of December 1947 at Madras to assess the progress made in the ameliorative work in the Prohibition districts and to evolve a plan of work for the future. The Hon'ble Mr. Daniel Thomas, Minister for Prohibition opened the conference. He appealed to the officers to utilise the opportunity provided by the Prohibition programme to bring about a general improvement in the economic and social life of the ~~above~~ rural population.

SUBSTITUTES FOR DRINK: In most of the districts new refreshment stalls have sprung up and they are reported to be gaining popularity. The Indian Tea Market Expansion Board continued to distribute free tea in Ranipet, Sholingur, Arkonam, Gudiyattam, Ambur and Vaniambadi in the North Arcot district while in Madura they distributed tea and light refreshments in 29 villages at concessional rates during the month.

RURAL RECREATION: The 77 Rural Recreation Officers who were on duty during the month visisted 993 villages and organised rural games in 893 villages. 54 tournaments were also held during the month.

BHAJANS, HARIKATHAS, KALAKSHEPAMS AND DRAMAS: Bhajanas, Harikathas and Kalakshepams were held during the month in 1953 villages. Folk dances, dramas or cinema shows were held at the instance of the Special Development Officers in 495 villages. Drama as a form of counter attraction to drink is becoming more and more popular. Reports from Collectors indicate that in many villages dramatic troupes have been organised.

BALLARD SINGERS: 57 ballard singers were on duty during the month. They visited 680 villages, organised community singing in 177 villages and trained 945 villagers in community singing during the month.

PROPAGANDA VANS: The propaganda vans were made good use of in most of the Prohibition districts. The vans at Coimbatore and Kurnool were utilised by the branch leaders of I.W.C.C. for 2 days and 3 days respectively for purposes of prpaganda.

GRAMASANGAMS: 520 gramasangams and 57 taluk associations were formed during the month. Out of the grámasangas formed till the end of the month, 4179 sangams were active during the month. They attended to various beneficial activities.

RURAL UPLIFT SCHOOLS: A rural uplift school was conducted at Puthur in South Kanara district during the month. Arrangements are being made to start similar rural uplift schools in the other new Prohibition districts.

THRIFT: A total of Rs. 26,020 was saved in hundi boxes during the month. The total sum saved upto the end of December 1947 was Rs. 1,44,337.

UPLIFT OF WOMEN: The Indian Women Civil Corps branches at Nellore, Salem and Bellary carried on prpaganda among women. The Special Development staff in the North Arcot and Nellore districts also addressed meetings of women.

EMPLOYMENT OF EX-TAPPERS: Information regarding employment of ex-toddy tappers in the prohibiion districts furnished by the Collectors is given below:

Salem: ** ** **

North Arcot: ** ** **

Coimbatore: ** ** **

South Kanara: ** ** **

Trichinopoly: ** ** **

Madura: ** ** **

Malabar: **. ** **

ECONOMIC CONDITION OF EX-ADDICTS: Some instances of improvement in the economic conditions of ex-addicts are given below:

North Arcot District: ** **

Coimbatore: ** ** **

Chittoor: Thoti Errappa. a harijan purchased a piece of land and pair of bullocks worth Rs. 300. Another, Kanamayya cleared his debit of Rs. 100 and purchased gold ornaments worth Rs. 60.

Kurnool: An ex-addict at Sungavaram by name Appavu saved Rs.200 and purchased a buffaloe. Another ex-addict Pulliah by name saved Rs- 30(and purchased one waist belt and some necessaries of life.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
Abstract

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PROHIBITION & Working - December 1947 - Board's Report - Recorded.

Revenue Department

G.O. (Ms) No. 582. Dated, the 16th March 1948
READ - the following:

From the Board of Revenue (Excise) C.R. No. 993-Abk/48-XFI dated the 30th January 1948.

ORDER:

R e c o r d e d.

(By order of His Excellency the Governor)

XX XX
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Excise).

/True copy/

R. Thiagarajan 26.12

Office Assistant,
Madras Record Office, Egmore.

18/12/57 18/12/57

Bellary: One Veeranna of Adoni ex-addict has purchased a cart or Rs. 150 and also some silver jewellery for his wife. Madiga Giddigadu of Kallubhavi bought 3 acres of land.

C.V. HANUMANTHA RAO
Director of Information and Publicity.-

/True copy/

Office Assistant,
Madras Record Office, Egmore.